



BULLETIN

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February 2001

DIRECTOR'S COLUMN

Henry L. Green

Replacement Windows, Roofing, and Siding

At a recent meeting with local code officials, I indicated a permit is not required for the installation of replacement windows, reroofing of existing buildings, and siding replacements given the following conditions:

With respect to window replacements, a permit would not be required if the window replacement does not involve any structural alterations of the opening or changes in the window size. If the window size is changed, it may impact the light and ventilation requirements of the room being served by the window. If the open size changes it would require structural alterations of the wall, thus requiring a permit.

Regarding roof replacements, the code provides that a roof may be reshingled twice. My comments to the code officials indicated that a roof may be reshingled without a permit provided no structural alterations are performed and the application does not constitute the third application of shingles.

Finally, I am unaware of any provisions in the code that require a permit for residing a structure, again provided the work did not impact the structural components of the building, and the window and door openings.

This office applies the code based on these parameters.

Bureau of Construction Codes Welcomes the Manufactured Housing and Land Development Division and the Enforcement Division

On November 8, 2000, Michigan Department of Consumer & Industry Services Director Kathleen Wilbur announced the streamlining of agencies within the department to make government more user-friendly.

By placing the Manufactured Housing and Land Development Division and the Enforcement Division in the Bureau of Construction Codes, it more centrally aligns the construction requirements for the variety of building and structures throughout the state as well as the licensing of practitioners in the construction industry.

Improvements in communication and information to the public will be realized through this restructuring. For more information, please visit the Bureau's web site at www.cis.state.mi.us/bcc.

Electrical Division Chief Recruitment

Tom Kriegish, Chief of the bureau's electrical division anticipates retiring April 1, 2001. As a result of his retirement, the bureau is seeking eligible candidates for possible interview. The salary range for this position is \$47,230.56 - \$62,723.52.

The individual in this position directs the state's electrical program and is responsible to oversee the work of all division employees.

An individual must meet the following qualifications to be considered for this position:

- One year of supervisory experience in the same specialized (electrical) area of code inspection, equivalent in responsibility to a Code Inspection Supervisor 14 in state service, OR two years of supervisory experience in the same specialized area of code inspection, equivalent in responsibility to a Code Inspection Supervisor 13 in state service, OR, four years of experience in the same specialized area of code inspection, equivalent in responsibility to an experienced (E11) level Code Inspector in state service.
- Possession of a journey or master electrician's license issued by the Michigan Department of Consumer & Industry Services or a municipality with a state approved licensing program. Must be currently registered or able to meet the registration requirements of Public Act 54.
- The individual must be able to effectively communicate with legislators, department personnel, contractors, homeowners, and the general public. Must have thorough knowledge of the electrical licensing law, state construction code act and the electrical code rules.

If you meet these qualifications and are interested in applying for this position, please send a resume detailing your qualifications and experience to:

Beth Aben
Executive Assistant to the Director
Bureau of Construction Codes
P.O. Box 30254
Lansing, Michigan 48909



Inspection Reports and the Investigative Process

by Scott D. Fisher, Director
Office of Local Government and Consumer Services

The successful conclusion of any investigation relating to code and/or licensing infractions is heavily dependent upon the expertise of the inspector or inspectors investigating the consumer and licensing complaints.

Inspectors who convey their findings in a concise, factual and documented manner provide a greater opportunity for successful resolution of the complaint. This will assist in initiating action against those responsible for the violation of the code or licensing law. While we can not predict 100% satisfaction in the complaint resolution process, we can provide a basis for a complete understanding of the issues when the report findings are understandable, objective and directed to the specific code section or provision of the law.

Remember, the time you invest in the investigation and preparation of the report is important to the entire process. Don't let your efforts and time be lost. Preparation of a comprehensive report

will withstand legal challenges and assist you in your testimony, should the need arise.

If you have any questions, please call the Office of Local Government and Consumer Services at (517) 241-9347.

Proposed Plumbing Code

by Robert G. Konyndyk, Chief
Plumbing Division

The anticipated Bureau of Construction Codes rule updates in 2001 will provide greater code clarification in the plumbing profession. While most of the bureau code disciplines will be updated and improved, plumbing may benefit the most in the residential arena.

The present plumbing code will be updated to the 2000 *International Plumbing Code* (IPC) with Part 7 rules. The rules which will have statewide enforcement will also be reduced in number for simplification and greater statewide uniformity. For example the proposed rules with their summary found on the bureau web site will use the fixture table numbers from the IPC.

The residential arena will be addressed in the 2000 *International Residential Code for One- and Two-Family Dwellings* (IRC). The IRC will address building, electrical, mechanical, and plumbing. Plumbing, with its 44 pages for one- and two-family dwellings not over three stories in height, will be far more specific. Venting diagrams will be provided and unnecessary code items from the IPC will be eliminated. Those simplifications plus others including venting considerations will benefit consumer cost concerns. Training will be relatively easy with our method of using a comparison between the 1997 IPC and the 2000 IRC. A comparison of the two codes indicates approximately 23 differences between the standards.

Questions regarding the 2000 Michigan Plumbing Code may be directed to the Plumbing Division at (517) 241-9330.

Holiday Closing

State offices will be closed in observance of the following holiday:

February 19 - President's Day

Inspections of Hoods and Ventilation Systems

by Tennison B. Barry, Chief
Mechanical Division

On November 8, 2000, the Department of Agriculture, Food and Dairy Division, Food Sanitation Section began enforcement of Act 92 of the Public Acts of 2000, known as the Food Law of 2000.

This act adopts the 1999 Food Code which focuses on issues other than construction requirements for ventilation exhaust hoods installed over cooking appliances. Sections 6119 through 6123 require a balance report and smoke test. The Food Code does not contain any other provisions for the installation or construction of ventilation exhaust equipment.

Local mechanical inspectors should be aware that the requirements of the State Mechanical Code and locally adopted Mechanical codes regulate the installation of exhaust equipment.

County health officials may not be aware of the role local inspectors play in the approval process, specifically how the changes in the Food Code impact the construction and installation of ventilation equipment. Many local health officials have referred questions regarding the installation of ventilation equipment to the Bureau of Construction Codes' Mechanical Division. These questions should be directed to the local enforcing agency responsible for the administration and enforcement of the mechanical code.

Local mechanical officials should contact local health officials to coordinate their inspection efforts to assure compliance with the respective regulations governing the installation of ventilation exhaust hoods serving cooking equipment.

Questions regarding how to contact your County Health Department may be directed to:

Mr. Allen Anderson, R.S., MBA
Plan Review Specialist
Michigan Department of Agriculture
Food and Dairy Division
611 W. Ottawa Street
Lansing, MI 48909
(517) 241-0934

Questions concerning the application of the State Mechanical Code may be directed to the Bureau of Construction Codes' Mechanical Division at (517) 241-9325.

BULLETIN

BUREAU OF
CONSTRUCTION
CODES

MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT
OF CONSUMER &
INDUSTRY SERVICES

The BULLETIN is a quarterly publication of the Bureau of Construction Codes within the Michigan Department of Consumer & Industry Services. The BULLETIN is published for the information of the 48,000 plumbers, electricians, mechanical contractors, boiler and elevator licensees, plan reviewers, building officials, inspector registrants, manufactured home communities, installer/servicers, and retailers throughout the state.

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Chief Recently Attended the Council of State Government Meeting in Dearborn Michigan

by Robert J. Aben, Chief
Boiler Division

The Boiler Division chief recently attended a Council of State Governments.

At the invitation of the National Board of Boiler and Pressure Vessel Inspectors, Chief Robert Aben assisted the national organization at their exhibit on December 8, 9, and 10. The meeting attracted legislators from across the country. This was an excellent opportunity to speak and interact with legislators and other government officials from Michigan about the state's boiler inspection program. Information was also provided to numerous legislators from other states regarding boiler inspection programs across the country. The benefits that the National Board provides to all jurisdictions in the form of training, research services, codes and standards, and as a hub for all member jurisdictions to promote uniformity in the boiler industry were explained to all attendees. There are presently 56 member jurisdictions from the United States and Canada. Individuals in attendance responded positively to the need for this regulatory program and acknowledged the effectiveness of the program in preventing boiler accidents.

2001 Inspector Training Programs

Continuing education programs for inspectors will be conducted by bureau staff at the Ralph A. MacMullan Conference Center, Roscommon, Michigan, on the following dates:

Electrical Inspectors

September 19 - 21, 2001

Mechanical Inspectors

March 19 - 21, 2001

October 22 - 24, 2001

Plumbing Inspectors

October 8 - 10, 2001

Building Inspectors

December 3 - 7, 2001 (week #1)

January 28 - February 1, 2002 (week #2)

Reservations or questions regarding training programs should be directed to the Office of Local Government and Consumer Services at (517) 241-9347.

Scheduled Board Meetings

MEETING	DATE	TIME	LOCATION
Electrical Administrative Board	Feb. 16	9:30 a.m.	Okemos-Conf. Room 1
Board of Mechanical Rules	Feb. 28	9:00 a.m.	Okemos-Conf. Room 3
Construction Code Commission	Mar. 7	9:30 a.m.	Okemos-Admin. Conf. Rm
Manufacturing Housing Commission	Mar. 7	10:00 a.m.	Mercantile Way, Ste. 7
Barrier Free Design Board	Mar. 9	9:30 a.m.	Okemos-Conf. Room 1
Board of Boiler Rules	Mar. 13	9:30 a.m.	Okemos-Conf. Room 2
Elevator Safety Board	Mar. 16	9:30 a.m.	Okemos-Conf. Room 1
State Plumbing Board	Mar. 20	10:00 a.m.	Okemos-Conf. Room 2
Electrical Administrative Board	Apr. 20	9:30 a.m.	Okemos-Conf. Room 1
Board of Mechanical Rules	Apr. 25	9:00 a.m.	Okemos-Conf. Room 3
Manufacturing Housing Commission	Apr. 25	10:00 a.m.	Mercantile Way, Ste. 7
State Plumbing Board	Apr. 25	10:00 a.m.	Okemos-Conf. Room 2
Construction Code Commission	May 2	9:30 a.m.	Okemos-Conf. Room 3
Elevator Safety Board	May 4	9:30 a.m.	Okemos-Conf. Room 3
Barrier Free Design Board	May 11	9:30 a.m.	Okemos-Conf. Room 1

Okemos = 2501 Woodlake Circle, Okemos
Mercantile Way, Ste. 7 = 6545 Mercantile Way, Lansing

License Exam Schedule

EXAM	DATE	LOCATION	DEADLINE
Boiler Installer/Repairer Exam	Mar. 7/8	Okemos	Feb. 8
Boiler National Board Exam	Mar. 7/8	Okemos	Feb. 8
Mechanical Contractor Exam	Mar. 14	Lansing	Feb. 14
Elevator Contractor & Certificate-of-Competency Exam	Mar. 16	Okemos	Feb. 23
Master & Journey Plumber Exam	Mar. 21	East Lansing	Mar. 2
Journey Electrician Exam	Mar. 27	Lansing	Feb. 27
Master Electrician Exam	Mar. 28	Lansing	Feb. 27
Elevator Journeyperson Exam	Apr. 18	Okemos	Mar. 30
Elevator Contractor & Certificate-of-Competency Exam	May 4	Okemos	Apr. 13
Master & Journey Electrical Exam	May 23	Escanaba	Apr. 25
Master & Journey Plumber Exam	Jun. 13	East Lansing	May 25
Boiler National Board Exam	Jun. 6/7	Okemos	May 7
Boiler Installer/Repairer Exam	Jun. 6/7	Okemos	May 7
Mechanical Contractor Exam	Jun. 13	Lansing	May 16
Journey Electrician Exam	Jun. 20	Lansing	May 22
Master Electrician Exam	June 21	Lansing	May 22

Dates and locations are subject to change.

Wheelchair Elevating Devices

by Calvin W. Rogler, Chief

Following are some concerns raised lately regarding the installation of wheelchair elevating devices in Michigan.

• **All** wheelchair elevating devices must meet the requirements of the Michigan Elevator Laws and Rules.

• Wheelchair elevating devices must pass the division's product approval process and be listed in the manufacturer's files maintained by the division.

• An installation permit must be obtained from the department prior to installation.

• A permit shall be issued only to a person, firm, or corporation licensed by the department as an elevator contractor.

• The work of installation, maintenance, repair, servicing, inspecting, adjusting, or testing of a wheelchair elevating device is

required to be done by a person who is licensed by the department as an elevator journeyperson.

• A wheelchair elevating device shall not be placed into service until it has been inspected by, and tested in the presence of a general elevator inspector.

Devices installed without meeting the above requirements will be sealed out of service. The ensuing investigation and actions result in added cost and inconvenience for the owner. These devices will only be placed back into service if they meet all the requirements of the Michigan Elevator Laws and Rules.

Contractors seeking product approval for wheelchair elevating devices not already in the approved manufacturer's file, should contact the division at (517) 241-9337 for further assistance.

Agricultural Exemption

by Irvin J. Poke, Chief
Plan Review Division

The bureau receives calls regularly regarding buildings and the exemption for agricultural purposes. The exemption in 1972 PA 230 only applies to construction permits. It has nothing to do with zoning and land use permits, as local ordinances govern these issues. The exemption is rooted in the definitions of building and structure within the act and not conspicuously stated.

Section 1502 of 1972 PA 230 defines "Agricultural or agricultural purposes," "Building," and "Structure". The definition for agricultural purposes describes the operations of agriculture. The definitions for building and structure excludes any use incident to the use for agricultural purposes. The definition further states that use must be located on the land engaged in the agricultural operation. There is no other specific language in the statute stating an exemption. The exemption is due to the exclusion for certain agricultural uses from the definition of building and structure.

Permits are required for the construction of buildings and structures as defined by Section 1502. Since a use incident to the use for agricultural purposes is not included in the definition of building or structure, a permit is not required. It is important to remember that the exclusion is based solely on use. If the use includes anything beyond that defined as agricultural, the exemption does not apply. Other issues such as agricultural zoning, income or size are not germane to the application of this exemption for permits in accordance with 1972 PA 230.

Previously this exemption only applied in areas of the state enforcing the state building code. However, an amendment to the State Construction Code Act signed in December of 1999 made this exemption applicable statewide.

Questions regarding agricultural buildings should be directed to the Plan Review/Building Division at (517) 241-9317.

Primary Metering of Services Over 600 Volts

by Thomas Kriegish, Chief
Electrical Division

The following information outlines the major code references and their application, when a primary metered service is installed. The premises wiring system is addressed from the established point of service from the utility.

Section 90-2(a) of the code requires all electric conductors and equipment connecting to the supply of electricity (service point) to comply with the code. The service point is defined in Article 100 as the point of connection between the serving utility and the premises wiring. This location could be anywhere from the property line to an established point on the property and it is at this point that compliance with the code would begin.

Requirements for services over 600 volts are found in Part H of Article 230. Section 230-205 requires the service disconnect to be located in accordance with section 230-70 and to simultaneously disconnect all ungrounded conductors that it controls. This could be metal-enclosed switchgear, a pad mount switch or in limited cases a pole mounted gang operated switch. In all cases the service disconnect must be externally operable and simultaneously disconnect all ungrounded service conductors. (The utility owned cutout switch does not qualify as the service disconnect.)

Transformers installed downstream from the primary switch must comply with Article 450 of the code. This area confuses people because conductor protection must be considered separately (see Article 240). Some conditions would cover both, however, two different values need to be considered. [i.e., the primary and secondary transformer overcurrent protection is based on values found in Table 450-3(a)]. If the secondary protection is installed as permitted by note 2 of the table, use of the tap rule of section 240-21(c)(2) could provide protection for the conductors from the transformer to the secondary switchboard. Careful review of the referenced code sections and plan review by the authority having jurisdiction should always precede a primary installation so proper design is assured prior to installation.

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